

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-11 AID-20 IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00

SS-20 SP-03 NSC-07 L-03 H-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /128 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0719

INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMCONSUL LUANDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 10084

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: ECA EAID XJ

SUBJ: UNDAT: ECA REQUEST TO ESTABLISH CENTRAL AFRICA UNDAT

FOR: IO/CMD LKAHN

AFR/NARA MMOULD

REF: ADDIS ABABA 3272

1. EMBASSY IN RECEIPT "CONFIDENTIAL" LETTER FROM ECA EXECSEC GARDINER RE PORPOSED UNDAT FOR EASTERN/SOUTHERN AFRICA. SUBJECT ALSO DISCUSSED WITH GARDINER, AW AND PINDER DURING WILSON COURTESY CALL AT ECA.

2. ECA CONCERNED ABOUT "INDISCREET ACTIONS" BY ECA SUB-REGIONAL OFFICE DIRECTOR FOR EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA, BAX NOMVETE, WHO ALSO PROOSED UNDAT TEAM LEADER. THROUGH NOMVETE CONTACTS WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN SUB-REGION, IMPRESSION CREATED THAT BY US ASSISTANCE TO UNDAT PROGRAM, USG INTENDED INFLUENCE DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. ACCORDING TO LETTER, SOME GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN SUB-REGION TOLD GARDINER THEY WANTED NO US MEMBERS WITH UNDAT IN THEIR AREA. GARDINER DOES NOT FEEL IT WISE TO GO AHEAD WITH ORIGINAL PLAN IN VIEW NOMVETE ACTIONS AND FACT GARDINER DOES NOT WISH ENTRUST SUCH EXTRA-BUDGETARY FUNDS TO
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NOMVETE.

3. ECA NOW FEELS IN VIEW CHANGING SITUATION IN CENTRAL AFRICA, FUNDS WOULD BE MORE EFFECTIVELY USED TO SUPPORT CENTRAL AFRICA UNDAT WHICH COULD ALSO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANGOLA. (EMBASSY POUCHING COPIES ASST EXECSEC AW'S REPORT ON HIS NOVEMBER 24-DECEMBER 10, 1973 MISSION TO ZAIRE, BURUNDI AND RWANDA RE PROPOSED CENTRAL AFRICA UNDAT.)

4. GARDINER REALIZES AID FUNDS PROVIDED FOR EASTERN/SOUTHERN AFRICA UNDAT. IN VIEW OF SITUATION DESCRIBED ABOVE, ECA WISHES USG VIEWS ON POSSIBILITY OF USING THESE FUNDS FOR CENTRAL AFRICA UNDAT. ON HIS RETURN TO WASHINGTON, PINDER WILL DISCUSS PROBLEM IN DETAIL WITH AID/W AND IO/CMD.

5. COMMENT: GARDINER PERSONALLY CONCERNED THAT NOTHING JEOPARDIZE USG SUPPORT FOR UNDAT PROGRAM. ECA LEADERSHIP PAINFULLY AWARE NOMVETE PREPARED TURN EASTERN/SOUTHERN AFRICA UNDAT INTO POLITICAL FOOTBALL, PLACING USG IN NO-WIN SITUATION. EMBASSY FEELS USG INTERESTS WOULD BE BETTER SERVED IN BYPASSING NOMVETE WITH CENTRAL AFRICA UNDAT, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW EVOLVING SITUATION IN ANGOLA. WYMAN

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